

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New York/New Jersey VA Health Care Network Announces New Healthcare System Director

Ms. Margaret O'Shea Caplan Brings Leadership, Proven Experience to James J. Peters VAMC

Bronx, NY — The Department of Veterans Affairs is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Margaret O'Shea Caplan, MS as the new director of the James J. Peters VA Medical Center. The James J. Peters VAMC is a tertiary care facility classified as a Clinical Referral Level 1 Facility. It is a teaching hospital, providing a full range of patient care services, with state-of-the-art technology as well as education and research. Comprehensive health care is provided through primary care, tertiary care, and long-term care in areas of medicine, surgery, psychiatry, physical medicine and rehabilitation, neurology, oncology, dentistry, geriatrics, and extended care. The James J. Peters VAMC has 311 authorized hospital beds and 120 nursing home beds and operates several regional referral points including Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) and VISN referrals for Medical/Surgical subspecialties.

"We are excited to bring Ms. Caplan on board as the new director of the James J. Peters VA Medical Center," said Dr. Joan E. McNerney, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 2 Director. "Her sound leadership qualities and proven experience will be valuable assets for the facility, the employees and volunteers, and most importantly, for the Veterans we are honored to serve. We anticipate she will arrive at the medical center within the next 30 days to begin her appointment."

Ms. Caplan joined VA more than 35 years ago and has held leadership positions at VA Hudson Valley Health Care System (VA HVHCS), Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center, and the Philadelphia VA Medical. Most recently, she has been serving as the Medical Center Director at VA Hudson Valley Health Care System, a complexity level 3 facility that employs 1400 staff and operates 35 inpatient beds, 104 domiciliary beds (to include Substance Use, PTSD, and Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans), and 127 Community Living Center beds. VA HVHCS boasts one of the country's first Long Stay Mental Health Recovery CLCs, transitioned from a chronic inpatient psychiatry unit.

Prior to serving as Medical Center Director at VA HVHCS, Mrs. Caplan spent two years as Medical Center Director at Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center. For 16 years before that, she was the Assistant and Associate Director at Philadelphia VA Medical Center. During her tenure in Philadelphia, she served as interim Director at VA Medical Centers located in Erie, Lebanon, and Wilkes-Barre. She

began her healthcare management career by entering the Associate Director/Healthcare Management Trainee Program in 1992 at VA Medical Center in Washington, DC. Prior to her acceptance in the Associate Director's program in 1992, she spent 10 years working in various positions in VA headquarters, including four years in the Office of Congressional Affairs.

Mrs. Caplan is a graduate of Leadership VA and a lifetime member of the Leadership VA Alumni Association. She is associated with American College of Health Care Executives and is a life member of the Senior Executive Association. She is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute and Executive Development Program from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

With over 1,800 staff, James J. Peters VA Medical Center and 4 Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) under its management provides a broad range of inpatient and outpatient health care services to Veterans living in the Bronx, Northern Queens and Westchester counties. They also serve VA Hudson Valley Health Care System patients with acute care needs and referrals to subspecialty clinics.

Contact: Jim Connell, James J. Peters Director of Community and Government Relations
Email: jim.connell@va.gov

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